



Headteacher's Newsletter

1/11/21

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you and your families are well and that you had an enjoyable half term. It was lovely to welcome the children back to school this morning.

Please note the following:

Covid

We have been informed by Public Health Rochdale of some changes to procedures related to Covid. I have sent a copy of the letter for parents to you separately but this is a summary of the new protocols:

- All staff are requested to wear a mask when moving around school and in communal areas so you may notice this. Please remember to wear a mask if you are coming into school or at the main office.
- Anyone, including children, who are a household contact or have been identified as a close contact should now take lateral flow tests every day before attending school.
 - The exemptions for this are children under 5 and children in Key Stage 1. Also, any child, aged 5-16, who has tested positive via a PCR for the past 90 days.
- Close contacts are advised to take a PCR test between day 3 and day 5 after being identified as a contact

Please remember that if your child has symptoms: high temperature, persistent cough, loss of taste or smell, then they should remain at home until they have had a PCR test.

And a reminder that if there is a positive case of Covid in the house, although government guidance is that children may still attend school, we support a decision to keep your child at home under these circumstances and will provide home learning materials so that your child does not miss out on their learning. Please contact the office if you are unsure about what to do.

Parent Governor Vacancy

There is currently a vacancy for a parent governor on the school governing board. Please contact me via the office if this is something you feel that you could commit to, so we can discuss the matter further. I look forward to welcoming a new member to the board of governors.

Jewellery in school

Please remember that jewellery should not be worn by pupils in school. I have noticed a few bracelets appearing and I have especially noticed that some pupils are wearing dangly earrings. For health and safety reasons, the only earrings that allow are studs.

Learning Support

You should be receiving a class newsletter in the coming days and knowledge organisers related to some of the subjects that the children are studying this half term. The knowledge organisers are a good way that parents can test their children on key information and vocabulary.

Good News

Just before half term, we were awarded a Mental Health in School bronze award from Leeds Beckett University. This is in recognition of the work we have done in this area and the support we have in place for our pupils.

Here are some excerpts from the report that we received:

A positive mental health culture is clearly embedded in the school

The school has an outdoor learning scheme which teaches children how to use outdoor experiences to

help with their mental health and wellbeing. Spending time outside to enjoy nature and growing vegetables are two favourite activities. Pupils are encouraged to express their feelings and openly discuss

how certain activities make them feel.

In a pupil survey which asked how school helped to support their mental health responses included:

“Everyone at this school listens and I feel safe when I am here”.

“I believe I am listened to. I can speak to my teacher about anything.”

“My teachers take me seriously when I talk about my mental health”.

Well done to all the staff and especially Miss Griffin, who led this initiative.

More Good News

One of our pupils, Diya Kaur-Singh in Year 6, represented our local constituency in a national Children’s Parliament last week. Children were able to ask questions of the MP David Davies and debate with each other around the topics of climate change, renewable energy and extinction of animals – this was ahead of the COP 26 conference.

Diya represented our school well and will be sharing her experience in a zoom assembly with the rest of school this week. Well done Diya!

Two of our pupils from Year 4, Hana Hussain and Dawa Khdir, will be representing school on Tuesday when Amal the refugee puppet will be welcomed to Rochdale. They will be part of the welcoming committee for Amal and will be taking part in the parade through Rochdale. Well done girls!

Thank you for your continued and valued support.

Please feel free to contact me at school.

With kind regards

Mrs H Edge